



Young Democratic Socialists of America

2021 Convention | Running Resolutions Tracker

June 25, 2021

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Draft Convention Rules (Adopted)

Delegate Apportionment and Credentials

1. YDSA members (hereafter referred to as “members” or “membership”) shall be determined on the basis of meeting all of the following criteria:
 - a. That they are dues paying DSA members in good standing as of March 29, 2021 and for the duration of the convention.
 - b. That they are listed on the YDSA chapter’s most current membership list as recorded by the national office by March 29, 2021
 - c. Their chapter has received a formal charter from the National Coordinating Committee (NCC), and that this charter has not expired or been otherwise nullified as of March 29, 2021
2. Voting at the 2021 YDSA Annual Convention (hereafter referred to as the “Convention”) shall be apportioned on a ratio of one (1) delegate per every five (5) members in their chapter. Each chapter may elect no more than one (1) alternate for every two (2) apportioned delegates. No chapter shall have less than one (1) delegate and one (1) non-voting alternate. (E.g. a chapter with 10 members would receive 2 delegates and 1 alternate, a chapter with 16 members would receive 3 delegates and 1 alternate, etc.)
3. Beginning April 5, 2021 the national office will provide YDSA chapters (hereafter referred to as “chapters”) with the number of delegates and alternates they have been allocated. A chapter’s members are dues-paying or dues-waived members of DSA in good standing who have affiliated with their specific YDSA chapter in the national membership database through the Chapter Affiliation Form, or who declared their affiliation upon joining DSA by using the join YDSA form. No updates to membership lists will be accepted for the purposes of the Convention after March 29, 2021, except in cases specified in Rule 3 Section a. No applications for chapter recognition will be accepted for the purposes of the Convention after March 29, 2021, unless granted an extension by a YDSA National Organizer.
 - a. Members of chapters that are approved by the NCC for the first time on or after March 29, 2021 may declare their chapter affiliation until April 5, 2021.
4. Chapters shall conduct and supervise their own elections of Convention delegates and alternate delegates in accordance with the applicable provisions of the YDSA constitution. Only members are eligible to be elected as delegates or alternates.
5. Each local must report the result of its elections in writing to the national office no later than May 23, 2021. The report must include full contact information, including an email address and phone number, for all delegates. If any of the names submitted are found not to be members by the national office, that person will be issued a credential upon joining DSA before May 30, 2021, however these members will not be counted when determining their chapter’s delegate apportionment. If they fail to join DSA before May 30, 2021 they will not be issued credentials and the chapter will be responsible for determining a replacement before the registration deadline on June 5, 2021. All official chapters receive weekly membership lists.
6. Each Local delegation shall designate a chair who shall be responsible for official communications with the Convention Secretary.

Convention Organization

Committees

7. The Convention committees shall consist of the following:

- a. a Resolutions Committee, to be appointed by the NCC, to manage all submitted constitutional amendments and resolutions. They shall work to reconcile any submissions that are out of order or beyond the scope or powers outlined in the YDSA constitution. (E.g. amendments that attempt to define powers outlined in the DSA constitution or resolutions that attempt to prescribe actions to DSA, both of which would be outside of the powers of the Convention.) The Resolutions Committee shall also work with sponsor(s) who submit similar or overlapping submissions in the interest of developing a single mutually agreeable submission for all sponsors. The Resolutions Committee may propose steps to facilitate consideration of resolutions, including but not limited to appointing small groups to redraft or combine resolutions, preferably in advance of the convention, and in consultation with the sponsors. The Resolutions Committee will structure the order in which resolutions are to be considered, the time allotted to each, and the number of speakers pro and con, taking into account the priorities expressed by the delegates in the poll (see Rule 24). They shall also submit a Consent Agenda to the convention based on the results of the poll, consisting of resolutions for immediate adoption and to be deferred to the NCC in the interest of time. A vote of 20% or more of the full delegated strength of the Convention may bring to the plenary for discussion and vote any resolution or amendment submitted by the deadlines specified in rules 19 and 23, but not recommended to the convention by the Resolutions Committee.
- b. a Convention Planning Team, appointed by the NCC, which is responsible for coordinating with the national office, the DSA Convention Planning Team, and Resolutions Committee around logistics and developing a final schedule for the Convention, pending approval from the Convention itself. This includes developing the programming around plenary sessions, workshops, and strategy sessions.
- c. a Presidium, to be confirmed by the Convention, whose duties shall include interpreting the the rules of the convention (see Rule 26 and 27), designating chairs for each Convention session, conducting the elections of members to the National Coordinating Committee and all other elections requiring a written ballot, and for making recommendations to the Convention on any challenges made to any election. The outgoing NCC may propose a slate for the Presidium for the Convention. The Convention Secretary shall be an ex-officio member of the Presidium.
- d. a Styles Committee, to be elected by Convention, to meet after the Convention is concluded which shall be responsible for compiling all adopted constitutional amendments and drafting them into a revised copy of the YDSA Constitution as amended by the Convention. This committee's aim is to incorporate the language of adopted amendments into the constitution in the interest of consistency and clarity. They will submit their draft to the NCC within six weeks of the conclusion of the Convention for the NCC to review and adopt. The Presidium may propose a slate for the Styles Committee for the Convention to adopt.

Recording

8. The NCC shall appoint rotating notetakers responsible for keeping the official record of the Convention.

9. The National YDSA Organizers and the Conventions and Conferences Organizer shall be responsible for convening Convention committees and act as a liaison between all Convention committees and the national office.

Voting

10. A quorum of the Convention shall consist of fifty percent plus one of the registered delegates and seated alternate delegates.

11. An accredited alternate delegate may be seated for a delegate temporarily or permanently. The permanent seating of an alternate must be reported immediately to the Convention Secretary.
12. Each delegate and seated alternate shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all questions coming before the Convention, except that each chapter delegation may vote its full strength provided that no individual casts more than three votes unless authorized to do so by the Convention. A chapter delegation which is less than full strength must inform the Convention Secretary prior to any vote in which multiple votes are to be cast, and shall advise the Convention Secretary of the method by which such multiple ballots will be cast (whether by the delegation as a whole, or by designated delegates.)
13. All questions to the Convention shall be decided by majority vote of the delegates and seated alternate delegates present and voting, except where a specified super-majority vote is required by the Constitution. A motion to suspend rules will require a two-thirds majority vote. All other procedural motions shall require a majority vote, except where otherwise provided in the Rules.
14. No secret ballot shall be conducted. All voting will be through online methods. The Chair of the Convention session shall determine the results of online votes and report the results to the Convention Secretary as well as announcing it to the convention session. A vote will be recounted at the request of any delegate or seated alternate, or if in the judgment of the Chair it is warranted due to closeness of the initial count. The Chair shall appoint such tellers as needed to assist in the counting of the vote.
15. Roll call votes shall be conducted at the request of thirty percent of the delegates and seated alternates present and voting, and shall consist of a recorded vote by delegation.

Plenary Procedure

16. Only delegates, seated alternate delegates, 2020-2021 NCC members, and DSA staff members may speak on questions coming before the Convention in plenary session. Speakers on all motions shall be limited to two minutes, unless the convention accepts a different limit. Speakers will be muted automatically at their time limit.
17. No additional amendments will be accepted from the floor of the Convention. Only primary and secondary amendments submitted and distributed in advance will be heard.

Procedural Authority

16. Except as provided in these Rules, or the Constitution, the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of the Convention.
17. Presidium shall be the sole interpreter of the Convention Rules.
18. Any delegate or seated alternate may appeal any ruling of the Presidium. In such instance, the person making the appeal may speak for up to two minutes to advocate the appeal and the Chair may speak for up to two minutes to defend the ruling. No other debate shall be permitted. The ruling of the Chair may be overturned by a vote in favor of the appeal by a majority of delegates and seated alternates present and voting.

Submissions

19. The national office will hold at least one (1) informational call open to all members conducted over Zoom about the submissions process and NCC elections before April 25, 2021.
20. All proposed amendments to the constitution and resolutions shall have a sponsor and at least two (2) additional cosponsors. All sponsors and cosponsors must be members. Proposed amendments and resolutions shall be submitted via a digital form to the Resolutions Committee no later than April 25, 2021. The national office shall make the digital form for submissions available through the national website.

21. Resolutions should consist primarily of statements of policy or outlines for organizational activity. This may include campaign initiatives, the formation of national bodies, direction for local activity or structure, or statements of support that may help guide the NCC in their direction of the affairs of the organization.
22. All constitutional amendments and resolutions shall be submitted electronically to the Resolutions Committee.
23. The Resolutions Committee shall submit a report to the national office containing all primary submissions in time for their inclusion in the May 3 Members' Bulletin.
24. Amendments to submissions shall be submitted digitally no later than May 23, 2021. The Resolutions Committee shall work to reconcile any out of order or overlapping submissions as it sees fit under the same guidelines enumerated in Rule 7, Section A. Sponsors of the original submission may decide whether or not they consider an amendment to their submission to be friendly.
25. After May 23, 2021, the national office shall distribute to all Convention delegates an online form listing all constitutional amendments and all resolutions, each resolution grouped together with its proposed amendments as a single item. The delegates will be allowed 48 hours to rank the items in terms of which should be allotted the most time for debate. The Convention Planning Team will allot greater time for debate and earlier scheduling to those with higher priority, unless a logical need to vote on some item before another demands different ordering. The Resolutions Committee shall submit a report to the National Office containing all primary and secondary submissions no later than May 31 for their inclusion in the Final Member's Bulletin to be distributed at the Convention.

NCC Elections

26. In order to be considered an eligible candidate for the NCC, a candidate must:
 - a. Be a member (as defined in Rule 1)
 - b. Receive no fewer than five (5) nominations from individual members.
 - c. Be 29 years of age or younger.
 - d. Review and agree to the YDSA Collective Accountability Agreement.
 - e. Accept their nomination.
27. All candidates for NCC are expected to comply with the rules outlined in the YDSA and DSA constitutions and bylaws and publicly disclose any past or current political affiliations upon acceptance of their nomination that may be reasonably considered pertinent to the conditions of their election.
28. Candidates who are eligible for nomination and receive the adequate number of nominations will be asked to accept their nomination in the form of a digital candidate questionnaire submitted to the national office. Eligible candidates for NCC will be asked to report how they self-identify for the purposes of parity. All information collected via this digital form will be made available to the membership. This questionnaire will also ask candidates to declare either for the office of "Co-Chair" or "At-Large".
29. The deadline for submission of nominations for the NCC shall be the end of Sunday, May 30, 2021.
30. The names of all candidates, along with their answers to the candidate questionnaire, will be published and distributed in the final Convention Bulletin, along with their nominations. If their nominations exceed five (5), only the first five (5) nominations chronologically will be published.
31. The national office will be responsible for confirming eligible candidates and their inclusion in the Convention Bulletin.

32. Contested elections for office shall be conducted by online ballots.
33. The election for the NCC Co-Chairs shall be conducted by ranked-choice voting and the election for the NCC At-Large Members shall be conducted by single transferable vote. Votes shall be conducted through and counted by OpaVote. All ballots from which the voter's preference can be clearly determined shall be counted. The candidate(s) with the highest number of total votes, after the application of all parity requirements as stipulated by YDSA constitution have been applied, shall be declared elected. Ballots are not secret.
34. Co-Chair and At-Large candidate elections will be held separately. Candidates who run for election as Co-Chair who are not elected may be added to the pool of At-Large candidates if they so choose.

Resolutions Committee

Graham Denevan, *East Bay DSA*

Sandy Barnard, *Chicago DSA*

Sumter Alton, *Atlanta DSA*

Walker Green, *Metro DC DSA*

Presidium (Adopted)

Graham Denevan, *East Bay DSA*

Michelle Fisher, *Madison DSA*

Sandy Barnard, *Chicago DSA*

Sumter Alton, *Atlanta DSA*

Resolutions

R1. Adopting a YDSA Platform (**Passed**)

Sponsor: Emmaline Bennett, *Columbia-Barnard YDSA*
Co-sponsors: Labiba Chowdhury, *City College of New York YDSA*
 Neah Havens, *Western Washington University YDSA*

Whereas in the 2020 YDSA Summer Convention, we voted to develop a tasks and perspectives document,

Whereas this platform was developed by the tasks and perspectives committee based on national discussions within YDSA and was approved by the National Coordinating Committee,

Whereas a political organization needs a political program to guide its work and broadcast its vision to the world,

Be it resolved that YDSA adopts the following platform:

“Young Democratic Socialists of America Platform

Socialism means the democratization of all of society in order to end oppression, exploitation, and domination. We fight for a world without classes.

The working class is the only social force capable of carrying out this fight and ultimately creating a more free, equal, and democratic society.

The working class means everyone who is forced to sell their labor, people who work for a wage or a salary and the people who depend on them — children, the elderly, the poor, the sick, the jobless, the homeless, the incarcerated — regardless of borders or citizenship.

As socialists who are students, we fight for this new world by:

1) Working to build a fighting, democratic labor movement capable of shifting power from the capitalist to the working class.

The working class is the only class in society with the structural power and material interest to bring about a transition to socialism. This is why the labor movement must be central to our struggles.

The legacies of McCarthyism and decades of neoliberalism have separated the labor movement from the socialist movement, a development that has fatally weakened labor militancy and rendered the left marginal and powerless. One of the most urgent tasks that socialists face today, therefore, is to rebuild the labor movement and restore its links to the socialist left.

2) Fighting for transformative reforms such as College for All, Medicare for All, a Green New Deal, and other demands that empower the working class, bring key sectors of the economy under social control, and counter austerity.

As a campus-based socialist organization, we have a key role to play in the fight for education as a public good that is freely available to all.

We demand full funding for public education at every level, from pre-K to graduate school. We work to build workplace power for teachers, school and campus workers, student-workers, and instructors. We demand the cancellation of all student debt, making all higher education public and tuition-free, and democratizing all universities.

Our support for transformational reforms, such as College for All, Medicare for All, and a Green New Deal, is directly related to our orientation towards building working-class power. These reforms would not only bring material improvements to the lives of working-class people; they would also serve to break the power that employers hold over workers, empowering us to fight for even more transformative changes that could eventually undermine the very foundations of capitalism.

At the same time that we recognize the urgent need for reforms to shift power to the working class, we also recognize the limitations of reforms that leave the basic structures of the capitalist system intact, which is why we are fighting for a socialist transformation rather than simply a reformed version of capitalism.

3) Centering struggles against racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, transphobia, and all other forms of oppression.

The working class is multiracial, multigendered, and international. Therefore, we cannot build a united working-class movement without fighting back against all the specific forms of oppression that the capitalist class uses to divide us.

This includes fighting for an abolitionist vision, through campaigns to defund the police, removing police from schools, providing safe housing for all, and investing in social programs.

4) Working to build up independent working-class politics and organization.

We can't rely on the Democratic Party to support the kinds of transformative reforms that will actually shift power from the capitalist class to the working class.

Instead, we will need to work towards building a mass, independent working-class party. In order to lay the groundwork for such a party, we will need to build up a much higher level of class struggle and organization in our society.

We can work towards this goal through a three-pronged strategy of running socialist candidates for office, organizing within the labor movement, and strengthening DSA so that it can serve as the nucleus of a working-class party. Building YDSA chapters through strong campaigns, political education, and democratic debate can serve as one step towards the creation of this independent working-class political organization.

—

Ultimately, the only way we can address the permanent crises created by capitalism is to build the mass working-class power needed to fundamentally transform our society—to replace a destructive system based on the

relentless pursuit of profit with a democratic system centered around human needs. This is a struggle that must be brought to campuses and workplaces across the country and across the world if we are to achieve victory.”

Amendments to R1

Amendment to R1 #1 (Passed)

Sponsor: Nate Knauf, *Georgia Tech YDSA*

This text would be added to the end of the resolution.

Proposed Text:

And be it further resolved, YDSA will adopt the DSA platform after it is adopted at the 2021 DSA Convention. If any sections of the YDSA platform conflict with the DSA platform, the YDSA platform will be amended to reflect the positions in the DSA platform. Any such amendments will be written and approved by the NCC, then submitted to the DSA NPC for approval.

Amendment to R1 #2 (Failed)

Sponsor: Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth*

This amendment would replace the entire resolution.

Proposed Text:

Whereas a political organization needs a political program to guide its work and broadcast its vision to the world,

Whereas the convention format is not conducive to the development of a comprehensive political platform, allowing only one round of revision, which takes place prior to public debate,

Whereas the timeframe of the convention either severely limits discussion of the proposed platform, or displaces necessary discussion of other pressing convention business,

Whereas these problems were confronted by the 2019 DSA convention, which decided to undertake a much longer process to develop a platform representing DSA's increased capacity and ideological diversity,

Be it resolved that the NCC will develop and implement a process for drafting a platform, making every reasonable effort to engage chapter leadership and membership directly, to be adopted at the 2022 YDSA convention.

Amendment to R1 #3 (Passed)

Sponsor: Emerson Bannon, *Miami University of Ohio*

This amendment would add on to Item 3 and include a 5th item in the resolution.

Proposed Text:

(Add to Item 3)

An intersectional analysis recognizing the intersecting dynamics of class and race is essential to our work.

YDSA is a fundamentally feminist, antifascist, antiracist organization committed to social justice and liberation.

5) Creating just campuses and communities

We are fighting campus capitalism, which reinforces hierarchy and punishes working-class students. They try to put a price tag on everything, and raise fees whenever they can. Too many schools care more about rankings than their students and teachers, protecting students' mental health is key.

Get cops off of campuses and officers out of schools. We fight racism on campus, directly and institutionally, every step of the way.

Disability rights means accessible campuses, which are livable by neurodivergent, and physically disabled students.

Accessible free and healthy food, no one on campus should be hungry or food insecure. Cancel all school lunch debt.

We work for tenant organizing in our dorms for our collective power. Housing is a human right and it certainly shouldn't put you in debt. No more housing insecurity in our schools.

Green campuses are a necessity, with student gardens, renewable power, free public transportation, and sustainable architecture and technology.

We want more democratic student and worker control over schools, instead of administrators and donors. Solidarity is essential, between students, staff, and faculty.

R2. Back to Class Struggle (Passed)

Sponsor: Nate Knauf, *Georgia Tech*

Co-sponsors: Remington Mickle, *Purdue*
 Jake W, *University of Virginia*

Whereas, socialism is more popular now than in decades, especially among students and youth.

Whereas, the unique conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic have materially hampered student organizing. Restrictions on in-person meetings and events have impeded YDSA chapters from developing strong social ties between supporters, members, and leaders. Chapters across the country have been weakened by these conditions.

Whereas, the vast majority of universities and colleges will have mostly on-campus in-person instruction in the Fall 2021 semester.

Whereas, effective organization necessitates cohesion and unity of action from the campus, workplace and neighborhood up to the national political leadership.

Whereas, pressure campaigns are defined as efforts to win a specific demand by pressuring specific decision-makers with a strategy to organize increasing pressure over time through escalating tactics.

Whereas, pressure campaigns are the most effective way for chapters to build bases of student and working-class support in their communities, recruit new members, and develop existing members into leaders.

Whereas, achieving concrete, not symbolic, campaign victories wins the confidence of the public and emboldens our members and organizers.

Whereas, chapters across the country have seen exceptional growth and success even in pandemic conditions by organizing local pressure campaigns, such as the Tuition Strike at Columbia University, the Free Laundry for All campaign at Boston University, or the campaign for a Student and Workers' Response to Covid at the University of Virginia.

Whereas, the Fall 2021 semester is an opportunity to reinvigorate latent members, organizing committees, and chapters through campaign work

Therefore be it resolved, the strategic priority of the national organization shall be to build strong chapters with strong social ties, strong democratic structures, and strong political leadership.

Resolved, the primary task of the national organization shall be to organize chapters and organizing committees to develop local programs and run pressure campaigns.

Resolved, national staff, interns, and volunteer chapter mentors shall be tasked with meeting with local chapters in order to:

- Identify organic leaders
- Cut an issue and develop a demand in local context
- Help members draft a campaign plan

- Share national resources and template campaign materials

Resolved, chapters will be encouraged to draw inspiration from successful chapters and model their demands over issues proven to be effective in other similar environments, such as:

- Freezes or reductions on tuition and fees
- Voluntary recognition of labor unions
- Increased wages or benefits
- Divestment from fossil fuels

Resolved, towards these goals, a National Organizing Committee (NOC) shall:

- Be convened as a body of organizers and leaders from across the country.
- Be subordinate to the political leadership of the democratically elected National Coordinating Committee (NCC).
- Meet as a full committee at least six times between Conventions to:
 - Assess and report on chapter activity,
 - Hear reports from all national committees,
 - Discuss matters of national importance,
 - Advise the NCC on political questions.
- Have at least 30 members
 - Members must be active in national organizing in at least one of the following ways:
 - Mentor at least one chapter other than their own,
 - Serve on one other national committee,
 - Serve on the NCC.
 - Members who miss more than one meeting without excuse may be removed by the NCC for nonfeasance.

Amendments to R2

Amendment to R2 #1 (Passed)

Sponsor: Emmaline Bennett, *Columbia University*

This amendment would remove the following language from the resolution.

Proposed Text to be Removed:

“Have at least 30 members

-Members must be active in national organizing in at least one of the following ways:

- Mentor at least one chapter other than their own,
 - Serve on one other national committee,
 - Serve on the NCC.
- Members who miss more than one meeting without excuse may be removed by the NCC for nonfeasance.”
-

Amendment to R2 #2 (Withdrawn by author)

Sponsor: Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth*

This amendment would append the final resolution.

Proposed Text:

Resolved, the NOC shall also be empowered to create Regional Subcommittees to organize state- and regionally-relevant projects, made up of NOC members in that region and other interested YDSA members in good standing in that region.

R3. Building a YDSA Mentor Program (Passed - Consent Agenda)

Sponsor: Clare Katko, *YDSA at Diablo Valley College*

Co-sponsors: Jake Colosa, *NYU YDSA*

Michael Stenovec, *UCLA YDSA*

Whereas, the growth and sustainability of the socialist movement relies on recruiting and training lifelong socialists organizers to act as the core of DSA and leaders in the labor movement. YDSA has incredible potential to recruit and develop such organizers on a mass scale.

Whereas, to sustain the development and support YDSA organizers require, there needs to be a stronger connection between older and more experienced DSA organizers and younger and newer YDSA organizers. There exists a YDSA Mentor program in which DSA chapters are meant to elect or appoint YDSA Mentors to help coordinate, build, and mentor YDSA chapters in their DSA chapters' geographic region. There is a lot of promise for this program as seen by the work in East Bay DSA and Los Angeles DSA where YDSA Mentors have helped mentor the creation of 10+ chapters. However, thus far DSA chapters have demonstrated limited interest in the program and to the extent that they do, they have mostly focussed on plugging YDSA chapters into local DSA work, rather than serving the role of recruiting, mentoring, and developing YDSA cadre.

Whereas, building the YDSA Mentor program would help grow and strengthen YDSA and help build out a larger layer of politically confident YDSA leaders and organizers by providing consistent mentorship from local experienced organizers,

Whereas, building the YDSA Mentor program would help grow and strengthen DSA by developing YDSA more and more into a pipeline for recruiting, training, and developing lifelong socialist organizers to serve as an expanded core layer within DSA and the class-struggle current of the labor movement.

Therefore be it resolved, the YDSA National Coordinating Committee (NCC) will establish a National YDSA Mentor Team to run a program to coordinate, train, and direct DSA-chapters' YDSA Mentors. The Team will be made up of NCC members, staff, and experienced YDSA Mentors.

Be it further resolved, if a DSA member is elected or appointed to the YDSA Mentor position in their chapter, they should take part in this program.

Be it further resolved, this program will be meant to standardize the role of the YDSA Mentor position, how they orient toward and coordinate with YDSA chapters, develop leaders, and plug YDSA chapters into national YDSA priorities. The Team will also work with the YDSA National Political Education Committee (NPEC) and National Organizing Committee (NOC) to develop a standardized curriculum that all YDSA Mentors should use, however Mentors are encouraged to plug YDSAers into local DSA work as well, on top of the national curriculum. This curriculum will cover introductory political education, how to carry out mentorship, leadership development, skills training, and organization building.

Be it finally resolved, YDSA will endorse a similar resolution brought to the DSA National Convention that gives YDSA authority to coordinate and direct DSA-chapter YDSA Mentors. Since the position is an elected or appointed DSA-chapter position, the DSA Convention should grant this authority to YDSA. DSA chapters will be given instructions on how to plug their YDSA Mentors into the program.

R4. Campus Labor Organizing (Passed)

Sponsor: Jacob W, YDSA at University of Virginia

Co-sponsors: Harry Bagenstos, Wesleyan YDSA

Jia Sahar, Purdue YDSA

WHEREAS, while the role of student occupies a unique material position, many students exist simultaneously as laborers.

AND WHEREAS, just as students have no reason to delay socialist organizing until after graduation, student-workers naturally have no reason to delay participation in workplace organizing.

AND WHEREAS, the university and surrounding communities often relies in heavy part on the participation of a student workforce.

AND WHEREAS, the greater working class exists alongside student-workers, and shares the same material interest.

AND WHEREAS, the labor, as it currently exists, in these environments is largely unorganized, and as such is particularly vulnerable to the incoming wave of austerity.

AND WHEREAS, engaging directly in labor organizing at natural points of class struggle, builds the experience of YDSA members to carry forward that organizing beyond graduation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that YDSA establish labor organizing as a priority in 2021-2022

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that YDSA call for the DSLC of DSA to establish a campus worker circle in collaboration with the NCC of YDSA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, YDSA in collaboration with the DSLC shall establish a consistent training program for labor organizing skills for graduate students, campus staff, and undergraduate students with the goal of both national and chapter organizing efforts

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the campus worker circle is tasked with contacting chapters to assess the conditions of campus labor and compile a report before the 2022 DSA and YDSA convention detailing common strategy and struggles, and that recruitment into YDSA shall prioritize student workers on campuses

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, YDSA shall work with DSA to establish connections with existing labor organizations for the purpose of salt placements post graduation.

Amendment to R4 (Failed)

Sponsor: Charlie Mullier, Kenyon College

This amendment would replace the entire resolution.

Proposed Text:

WHEREAS, while the role of student occupies a unique material position, many students exist simultaneously as laborers.

AND WHEREAS, just as students have no reason to delay socialist organizing until after graduation, student-workers naturally have no reason to delay participation in workplace organizing.

AND WHEREAS, the university and surrounding communities often relies in heavy part on the participation of a student workforce, student workers are positioned to exercise great power against their university administrations by organizing as workers.

AND WHEREAS, the greater working class exists alongside student-workers, and shares the same material interest.

AND WHEREAS, undergraduate student workers have successfully formed recognized labor unions at Grinnell College, the University of Massachusetts and many more colleges and universities, there is a great opportunity for undergraduate student workers to organize.

AND WHEREAS workers at Kenyon College formed the Kenyon Student Worker Organizing Committee (K-SWOC) to win a union of all student workers, the undergraduate labor movement will require organization and militant struggle of this kind to grow on a national scale.

AND WHEREAS, engaging directly in labor organizing at natural points of class struggle, builds the experience of YDSA members to carry forward that organizing beyond graduation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that YDSA establish labor organizing as a priority in 2021-2022

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that YDSA call for the DSLC of DSA to establish an undergraduate labor network in collaboration with YDSA's National Labor Committee (NLC). The network would be a place for student-workers to share their organizing experiences with each other, ask questions and coordinate a mass strategy to run and win their campaigns together. .

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, YDSA's NLC in collaboration with the DSLC shall establish a committee of organizers dedicated to supporting the organizing committees and union campaigns housed in the undergraduate labor network. This dedicated support will include training programs as well as regular contact with organizers to decide upon strategy and the direction of campaigns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NLC is tasked with contacting chapters to assess the conditions of campus labor and compile a report before the 2022 DSA and YDSA convention detailing common strategy and struggles, and that recruitment into YDSA shall prioritize student workers on campuses. The NLC will collaborate with the undergrad labor network on the report and will work to plug student workers into the undergrad labor network .

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The NLC shall work with the DSLC to establish connections with existing rank-and-file labor organizers and organizations for the purpose of industrialization and salt placements post graduation.

R5. College for All (Passed)

Sponsor: **Jake Colosa**, *New York University*

Co-sponsors: **Ali Noorzad**, *Diablo Valley College*
Emmaline Bennett, *Columbia University*

Whereas, the COVID crisis has exposed the inability of capitalism to operate in the best interests of students and workers. Tuition and rent costs have continued to escalate for college students, while funding for public education as well as wages and benefits for teachers, instructors, student-workers, and school and campus employees continue to be cut.

Whereas, College for All includes work to synthesize demands from students and workers, as well as train organizers to run other campaigns such as union drives and electoral campaigns.

Whereas, YDSA is most effective when chapters are cohered around national priorities. A national priority campaign serves to coordinate the growth of chapters, combat uneven development, and unify the organization around common goals.

Whereas, YDSA's National Coordinating Committee has responded to the COVID crisis by focusing all of our energy into the Cancel All Student Debt Campaign, which can serve as a model for future national campaigns involving phonebanks, strategy sessions, and other national actions. It further shows that strong national campaigns build YDSA at the national and local level, with dozens of new chapters and organizing committees forming as a result of the campaign.

Whereas, through building out our national infrastructure like the National Organizing Committee, we will continue to expand our capacity as an organization, allowing us to carry out successful campaigns and organize schools across the country to start new YDSA chapters.

Whereas, a national and widely-felt campaign will create opportunities for smaller chapters to grow their membership and develop new organizers through continual involvement with other chapters around the country.

Whereas, College for All will put forward a vision for students and workers to imagine an education system that works for all, such as through the cancellation of student debt, making universities public and tuition-free, democratizing university structures, guaranteeing decent working conditions for education workers, defunding police in schools and universities, and fighting racism, discrimination, oppression, and racial inequity in schools and universities.

Whereas, YDSA chapters have already been leading the fight for a democratized and affordable education system. Chapters such as Columbia-Barnard, Kenyon, and UVA have led efforts to confront their administrations with collective action, raising the consciousness and organization of tens of thousands of students and workers.

Whereas, College for All is broadly applicable to various local conditions. High school, community college, and four-year public and private university students all have material interests reflected in the College for All campaign, allowing every chapter to effectively participate in the campaign despite their varying circumstances.

Therefore be it resolved, YDSA will prioritize a single national campaign of College for All. This campaign will put forward a socialist vision of education, including:

- Cancelling student debt;
- Fully funding public education and making public colleges tuition-free;
- Democratizing higher education;
- Defunding police in schools and universities;
- Fair compensation and decent working conditions for school employees, instructors, student-workers and campus workers;
- Fighting racism, discrimination, oppression, and racial inequity in schools and universities.

Resolved, the YDSA College for All campaign will prioritize labor organizing alongside student organizing, and chapters should look to build solidarity with campus unions as much as possible.

Resolved, that College for All will also include COVID-related demands for as long as needed, including \$2,000 monthly stipends for all, Medicare for All, and cancellation of rent, debt, and other monthly payments, with the intent of making these demands permanent beyond the pandemic.

Resolved, as part of our vision for democratizing education and shifting resources towards students and workers, the YDSA College for All campaign will also incorporate local demands for defunding campus police, expel school resources officers, cut ties with local police departments, keep ICE out of schools and campuses, and other demands related to defunding policing in schools and universities. This work will be supported on the national level through political education events hosted by the National Political Education Committee, trainings and campaign resources produced by the Materials Committee, and one-on-one mentorship with chapters running Defund the Police campaigns through the Outreach Committee.

Resolved, as part of our vision for creating an education system that is accessible to all, the YDSA College for All Campaign will also incorporate local demands for fighting racism, discrimination, racial oppression and inequity in schools and universities. This work will be supported on the national level by the National Political Education Committee, Materials Committee, and Outreach Committee in all the ways outlined above.

Resolved, the YDSA College for All campaign will encompass local, city- and state-wide, and national organizing. At the national level, the YDSA National Coordinating Committee will work with the National Organizing Committee to organize a pressure campaign around a national demand that is strategic and widely-felt, engaging chapters around the country through actions such as letter campaigns and phonebanks.

Resolved, an example of what this campaign might look like at the national level could include a pressure campaign in support of the H. R. 3472 and S. 1947 College for All bills, targeting members of the House Committee on Education and Labor and the Senate Committee on Finance as well as members of Congress more broadly.

Resolved, the following National Organizing Committee subcommittees will work on carrying out the national campaign strategy and mentoring chapters on their campaign work:

- Materials, whose duties include creating trainings, written guides, graphics, flyers, and other campaign materials to help chapters with their local campaigns and to publicize our campaign on the national level, in addition to running social media campaigns;
- Outreach, whose duties include having regular, strategic one-on-one calls with chapters to mentor them on their local campaigns, and mobilizing YDSA members to national calls and trainings;
- Field, whose duties include organizing national actions around the campaign, including phone banks, text banks, panels, and any other events under the direction of the National Coordinating Committee and other national committees.

Resolved, the National Organizing Committee will work to include all chapters in collaboration on the direction of the campaign through campaign updates and strategy calls. These calls would bring together chapters organizing around similar demands and allow for more engagement on the national level of the campaign. The chapter point people to the committees of the NOC will participate in their given committees, attend national campaign calls, and liaison between their chapter and the national campaign.

Resolved, chapters are encouraged to participate in the YDSA College for All campaign at the local level in the ways that make the most sense given their current capacity, with the aim of advancing deeply-felt local demands, furthering the national movement, growing their membership, and developing new organizers. These tactics can include but are not limited to:

- Small-capacity chapters will be encouraged to plug directly into the national campaign. This includes turning members out to national phonebanks and joining national committees. Small chapters should use the campaign to develop leaders at their chapter by assigning point people for each area of national work to develop members' skills in outreach, materials, and running phonebanks, and facilitating political education meetings using materials produced by the National Political Education Committee.
- Medium-capacity chapters will be encouraged to run public facing campaigns on their campuses. Examples of these campaigns include pressuring public school administrations to publicly support our national demand or supporting ongoing labor struggles on campus. Medium capacity chapters should also use the national campaign to develop new leaders by assigning point people to turn members out to national phonebanks and actions.
- Large-capacity chapters will be encouraged to confront their administrations through mass collective action, specifically tuition strikes, supporting teachers' unions and strikes, or student-worker unionization drives and labor strikes. They are also encouraged to tie in their local actions with the national campaign wherever possible, for instance by turning out newly-organized students and student-workers to come to national phonebanks and other actions. These chapters will receive considerable national support on their tuition strike or labor organizing campaigns, including:
 - Resources from the Materials Committee such as templates for FAQs sheets and phonebanking guides, press lists and tips for writing press releases, and any other resources that chapters need, using some of the resources that chapters such as Columbia-Barnard and Kenyon have already developed for tuition strikes and labor organizing respectively.
 - One-on-one mentorship conversations between chapter leaders and National Organizing Committee members throughout the campaign, as well as regular calls between chapter leaders organizing similar kinds of campaigns to share experiences and strategies. These conversations and cross-chapter meetings can also serve as a way of sharing research about how to most effectively pressure administrations.

Resolved, the 2021 YDSA Fall Drive will be designed to support the national College for All campaign, including a survey of how YDSA chapters intend to plug into the campaign at the local and national level. The National Organizing Committee will use the results of this survey to connect chapter leaders with organizers and resources relevant to the tactics and demands they are organizing around, as well as facilitate statewide organizing efforts where applicable.

Resolved, the YDSA College for All campaign will also center the demands of K-12 students and education workers. High school and middle school chapters should participate in national phonebanks and actions to support our

demands and develop local leaders at their chapters. These chapters are encouraged to run local campaigns related to the College for All demands, such as fighting for increased funding for their schools, the removal of school resource officers, and supporting unions and labor organizing efforts at their schools.

Resolved, YDSA recognizes that chapters at public and private institutions have different roles to play in the fight for College for All. Public school chapters should run campaigns to decommodify and democratize their institutions at the state and local level, including through statewide campaigns in public university systems with multiple YDSA chapters. The National Organizing Committee will work to support chapters in these statewide campaigns. Private school chapters should focus on building power for students and workers on their campuses, such as fighting for tuition freezes or reductions, fair working conditions for employees, and defunding campus police, prioritizing the use of collective action to politicize and organize a broader layer of students to bring them into the socialist movement.

Amendments to R5

Amendment to R5 #1 (Withdrawn)

Sponsor: Nate Knauf, *Georgia Tech YDSA*

This amendment would modify the resolution in the following ways

Whereas, the COVID crisis has exposed the inability of capitalism to operate in the best interests of students and workers. Tuition and rent costs have continued to escalate for college students, while funding for public education as well as wages and benefits for teachers, instructors, student-workers, and school and campus employees continue to be cut.

Whereas, College for All includes work to synthesize demands from students and workers, as well as train organizers to run other campaigns such as union drives and electoral campaigns.

Whereas, YDSA is most effective when chapters are cohered around national priorities. A national priority campaign serves to coordinate the growth of chapters, combat uneven development, and unify the organization around common goals.

Whereas, YDSA's National Coordinating Committee has responded to the COVID crisis by focusing all of our energy into the Cancel All Student Debt Campaign, which can serve as a model for future national campaigns involving phonebanks, strategy sessions, and other national actions. It further shows that strong national campaigns build YDSA at the national and local level, with dozens of new chapters and organizing committees forming as a result of the campaign.

Whereas, through building out our national infrastructure ~~like the National Organizing Committee~~, we will continue to expand our capacity as an organization, allowing us to carry out successful campaigns and organize schools across the country to start new YDSA chapters.

Whereas, a national and widely-felt campaign will create opportunities for smaller chapters to grow their membership and develop new organizers through continual involvement with other chapters around the country.

Whereas, College for All will put forward a vision for students and workers to imagine an education system that works for all, such as through the cancellation of student debt, making universities public and tuition-free, democratizing university structures, guaranteeing decent working conditions for education workers, defunding police in schools and universities, and fighting racism, discrimination, oppression, and racial inequity in schools and universities.

Whereas, YDSA chapters have already been leading the fight for a democratized and affordable education system. Chapters such as Columbia-Barnard, Kenyon, and UVA have led efforts to confront their administrations with collective action, raising the consciousness and organization of tens of thousands of students and workers.

Whereas, College for All is broadly applicable to various local conditions. High school, community college, and four-year public and private university students all have material interests reflected in the College for All campaign, allowing every chapter to effectively participate in the campaign despite their varying circumstances.

Therefore be it resolved, YDSA will prioritize a single national campaign of College for All. This campaign will put forward a socialist vision of education, including:

- Cancelling student debt;
- Fully funding public education and making public colleges tuition-free;
- Democratizing higher education;
- Defunding police in schools and universities;
- Fair compensation and decent working conditions for school employees, instructors, student-workers and campus workers;
- Fighting racism, discrimination, oppression, and racial inequity in schools and universities.

Resolved, the YDSA College for All campaign will prioritize labor organizing alongside student organizing, and chapters should look to build solidarity with campus unions as much as possible.

Resolved, that College for All will also include COVID-related demands for as long as needed, including \$2,000 monthly stipends for all, Medicare for All, and cancellation of rent, debt, and other monthly payments, with the intent of making these demands permanent beyond the pandemic.

Resolved, as part of our vision for democratizing education and shifting resources towards students and workers, the YDSA College for All campaign will also incorporate local demands for defunding campus police, expel school resources officers, cut ties with local police departments, keep ICE out of schools and campuses, and other demands related to defunding policing in schools and universities. This work will be supported on the national level through political education events hosted by the National Political Education Committee, trainings and campaign resources produced by the **national organization** Materials Committee, and one-on-one mentorship with chapters running Defund the Police campaigns through the Outreach Committee.

Resolved, as part of our vision for creating an education system that is accessible to all, the YDSA College for All Campaign will also incorporate local demands for fighting racism, discrimination, racial oppression and inequity in schools and universities. This work will be supported on the national level by the National Political Education Committee, Materials Committee, and Outreach Committee in all the ways outlined above.

Resolved, the YDSA College for All campaign will encompass local, city- and state-wide, and national organizing. At the national level, the YDSA National Coordinating Committee will work with the National Organizing Committee to

organize a pressure campaign around a national demand that is strategic and widely-felt, engaging chapters around the country through actions such as letter campaigns and phonebanks.

Resolved, an example of what this campaign might look like at the national level could include a pressure campaign in support of the H. R. 3472 and S. 1947 College for All bills, targeting members of the House Committee on Education and Labor and the Senate Committee on Finance as well as members of Congress more broadly.

~~Resolved, the following National Organizing Committee subcommittees will work on carrying out the national campaign strategy and mentoring chapters on their campaign work:~~

- ~~–Materials, whose duties include creating trainings, written guides, graphics, flyers, and other campaign materials to help chapters with their local campaigns and to publicize our campaign on the national level, in addition to running social media campaigns;~~
- ~~–Outreach, whose duties include having regular, strategic one-on-one calls with chapters to mentor them on their local campaigns, and mobilizing YDSA members to national calls and trainings;~~
- ~~–Field, whose duties include organizing national actions around the campaign, including phone banks, text banks, panels, and any other events under the direction of the National Coordinating Committee and other national committees.~~

Resolved, ~~the National Organizing Committee~~ **YDSA** will work to include all chapters in collaboration on the direction of the campaign through campaign updates and strategy calls. These calls would bring together chapters organizing around similar demands and allow for more engagement on the national level of the campaign. ~~The chapter point people to the committees of the NOC will participate in their given committees;~~ **will** attend national campaign calls, and liaison between their chapter and the national campaign.

Resolved, chapters are encouraged to participate in the YDSA College for All campaign at the local level in the ways that make the most sense given their current capacity, with the aim of advancing deeply-felt local demands, furthering the national movement, growing their membership, and developing new organizers. These tactics can include but are not limited to:

- Small-capacity chapters will be encouraged to plug directly into the national campaign. This includes turning members out to national phonebanks and joining national committees. Small chapters should use the campaign to develop leaders at their chapter by assigning point people for each area of national work to develop members' skills in outreach, materials, and running phonebanks, and facilitating political education meetings using materials produced by the National Political Education Committee.
- Medium-capacity chapters will be encouraged to run public facing campaigns on their campuses. Examples of these campaigns include pressuring public school administrations to publicly support our national demand or supporting ongoing labor struggles on campus. Medium capacity chapters should also use the national campaign to develop new leaders by assigning point people to turn members out to national phonebanks and actions.
- Large-capacity chapters will be encouraged to confront their administrations through mass collective action, specifically tuition strikes, supporting teachers' unions and strikes, or student-worker unionization drives and labor strikes. They are also encouraged to tie in their local actions with the national campaign wherever possible, for instance by turning out newly-organized students and student-workers to come to national phonebanks and other actions. These chapters will receive considerable national support on their tuition strike or labor organizing campaigns, including:

- Resources from the ~~national organization Materials Committee~~ such as templates for FAQs sheets and phonebanking guides, press lists and tips for writing press releases, and any other resources that chapters need, using some of the resources that chapters such as Columbia-Barnard and Kenyon have already developed for tuition strikes and labor organizing respectively.
- One-on-one mentorship conversations between chapter leaders and National Organizing Committee members throughout the campaign, as well as regular calls between chapter leaders organizing similar kinds of campaigns to share experiences and strategies. These conversations and cross-chapter meetings can also serve as a way of sharing research about how to most effectively pressure administrations.

Resolved, the 2021 YDSA Fall Drive will be designed to support the national College for All campaign, including a survey of how YDSA chapters intend to plug into the campaign at the local and national level. The ~~National Organizing Committee~~ **national organization** will use the results of this survey to connect chapter leaders with organizers and resources relevant to the tactics and demands they are organizing around, as well as facilitate statewide organizing efforts where applicable.

Resolved, the YDSA College for All campaign will also center the demands of K-12 students and education workers. High school and middle school chapters should participate in national phonebanks and actions to support our demands and develop local leaders at their chapters. These chapters are encouraged to run local campaigns related to the College for All demands, such as fighting for increased funding for their schools, the removal of school resource officers, and supporting unions and labor organizing efforts at their schools.

Resolved, YDSA recognizes that chapters at public and private institutions have different roles to play in the fight for College for All. Public school chapters should run campaigns to decommodify and democratize their institutions at the state and local level, including through statewide campaigns in public university systems with multiple YDSA chapters. The ~~National Organizing Committee~~ **national organization** will work to support chapters in these statewide campaigns. Private school chapters should focus on building power for students and workers on their campuses, such as fighting for tuition freezes or reductions, fair working conditions for employees, and defunding campus police, prioritizing the use of collective action to politicize and organize a broader layer of students to bring them into the socialist movement.

Amendment to R5 #2 (Passed)

Sponsor: Nate Knauf, *Georgia Tech YDSA*

This amendment would strike the following clauses:

Whereas, YDSA's National Coordinating Committee has responded to the COVID crisis by focusing all of our energy into the Cancel All Student Debt Campaign, which can serve as a model for future national campaigns involving phonebanks, strategy sessions, and other national actions. It further shows that strong national campaigns build YDSA at the national and local level, with dozens of new chapters and organizing committees forming as a result of the campaign.

...

Resolved, that College for All will also include COVID-related demands for as long as needed, including \$2,000 monthly stipends for all, Medicare for All, and cancellation of rent, debt, and other monthly payments, with the intent of making these demands permanent beyond the pandemic.

...

Resolved, the YDSA College for All campaign will encompass local, city- and state-wide, and national organizing. At the national level, the YDSA National Coordinating Committee will work with the National Organizing Committee to organize a pressure campaign around a national demand that is strategic and widely-felt, engaging chapters around the country through actions such as letter campaigns and phonebanks.

Resolved, an example of what this campaign might look like at the national level could include a pressure campaign in support of the H. R. 3472 and S. 1947 College for All bills, targeting members of the House Committee on Education and Labor and the Senate Committee on Finance as well as members of Congress more broadly.

R6. Committing to International Solidarity with Student and Youth Socialists (**Passed**)

Sponsor: Andrew Basta, *UChicago YDSA*

Co-sponsors: Harry Bagenstos, *Wesleyan YDSA*

Jordan Buchman, *YDSA at Northeastern University*

WHEREAS, all countries exist economically within the system of the global market, and politically within systems of imperialism which will only be effectively dismantled and replaced through the international collaboration and organization of the working classes of all countries and nationalities; and

WHEREAS, the US working class is itself multinational, internationalism at home means developing concrete steps to support and integrate the struggles of immigrant and migrant workers in the US—these include struggles for political rights as well as economic struggles embedded within the broader labor movement; and

WHEREAS, student and youth socialist movements abroad provide a unique opportunity to strengthen our collective socialist work; and

WHEREAS, the International Committee has undergone a process of restructuring that was begun in February of 2020 in order to build a more efficient and more balanced committee with a blend of new and incumbent leadership.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that YDSA commits to the following goals: 1) to establish relations with left, socialist, and working class student and youth organizations and movements across the world, 2) to offer material and symbolic forms of solidarity to these movements, organizations, communities, and individuals, and 3) to educate, advise, and organize the general membership of YDSA on international matters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the convention directs the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) to cooperate with the International Committee in order to form a student and youth Subcommittee of the International committee

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCC shall work with the International Committee Steering Committee and the International Secretariat to develop clear rules and standards governing the Subcommittee, and shall make these rules known to the general membership of YDSA; and that all Subcommittee membership rules and standards shall be bound by the following conditions: 1) that only YDSA members in-good-standing shall be eligible for subcommittee membership and 2) that the Subcommittee will function as any other International Committee subcommittee as subordinate to the International Secretariat and Steering Committee.

Amendment to R6 (**Withdrawn by author**)

Sponsor: Griffin Michael Mahon, *UVA YDSA*

This amendment would replace the last two resolved clauses.

Proposed Text:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the convention directs the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) to appoint one YDSA International Officer who will work with the DSA Internationalism Committee when necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the YDSA International Officer will be subordinate and accountable to the NCC and responsible for establishing connections with international groups and planning any events as well as writing reports to membership about their work and global developments.

R7. Cops Off Campus (Passed)

Sponsor: Tom Julstrom, University of Minnesota Duluth YDSA

Co-sponsors: Ben Caswell, University of Minnesota Twin Cities YDSA

Emerson Bannon, Miami University of Ohio YDSA

WHEREAS, police on campuses endanger students and community members

WHEREAS, campus police have been used to violently suppress protest by students and community members and have provided material support to off-campus police doing the same

WHEREAS, abolition and defeating white supremacy is a necessity for socialism

BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA officially endorses removing school resource officers from high schools, abolishing university police departments, and redirecting resources to community safety alternatives in coalition with local groups and community members, and will organize to that end

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, YDSA form an abolition committee composed of at least five members, to promote and coordinate abolition work in YDSA

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, this committee will analyze successful abolition campaigns on campuses and advise chapters in developing campaigns to abolish their own campus police

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, this committee will develop and host political education and trainings related to abolition theory and practice, in collaboration with the NPEC

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, in the event the DSA National Abolition Working Group becomes active, this committee will apply to merge with it as a "Youth and Campus Subcommittee", to still be composed of YDSA members and pursuing similar work under the larger national DSA project

Amendment to R7 (Accepted by author as friendly)

Sponsor: Emmaline Bennett, Columbia YDSA

This amendment replaces all resolved clauses

Proposed text:

BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA establishes abolitionist demands such as defunding campus police, cutting ties with local

police departments, establishing sanctuary campuses, and expelling school resource officers as a national priority,

and will support this work from political education events and curricula through the National Political Education

Committee and through chapter support and campaign materials provided by the National Organizing Committee.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the NPEC will develop and host political education and trainings related to abolition theory and practice.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, in the event of the establishment of a national DSA abolition group, YDSA will call on this national working group to establish a YDSA subcommittee designed to support abolitionist work on schools and campuses and connect this work to the larger DSA project.

R8. Expanding the YDSA Rank-and-File Pipeline (Failed)

Sponsor: Cyn Huang, *UC Berkeley YDSA*

Co-sponsors: Dahlia Wilson, *Albany High School YDSA*
 Willem Morris, *Columbia University YDSA*

Whereas, the labor movement must be central to any socialist strategy due to the structural power of the organized working class to extract concessions from the ruling class and the fact that unions are some of the most diverse working class institutions in the country. Labor organizing is both core to building socialist power and rooting the socialist movement in the multi-racial working class.

Whereas, to rebuild the American labor and socialist movements, and to merge the workers movement with socialism, socialists must have an orientation toward building shop floor power and developing a layer of rank-and-file leaders who can organize in the workplace on a day-to-day basis, often called the Rank-and-File Strategy (RFS). One key tactic of the RFS is having socialists take jobs in strategic, and often unionized, industries and workplaces.

Whereas, YDSA has a particular role within the socialist movement to develop life-long committed socialist organizers and send them into broader socialist and workplace struggles. YDSAers, having often not yet started careers, are in a unique position to carry out the tactic of taking a Rank-and-File job upon graduation, and in some unique situations, while still in school.

Whereas, previous to the creation of the National Labor Committee, a number of YDSAers had already committed to pursuing the RFS as individuals, but had not had organizational support in this pursuit. By providing organizational support, those pursuing the RFS are provided with mentorship, guidance, and a network of other socialists similarly pursuing the RFS in their preferred industry.

Whereas, the RFS is the priority of the YDSA National Labor Committee and a great deal has been done to create a solid foundation for this campaign to be successful. Prioritizing the RFS as the main focus of the YDSA National Labor Committee has made it so that the full attention of the committee is focused on ensuring that YDSA members have access to a true pipeline from graduation to the labor movement within their field, building a stronger and more militant labor movement along the way. Over the past year, hundreds of YDSA members have participated in the NLC's survey, mass calls, and rank-and-file schools.

Whereas, the NLC has been challenged by the scope of the administrative work necessary to coordinate projects such as the speakers bureau and mentorship program.

Therefore be it resolved, YDSA will renew its commitment to the rank-and-file strategy as it was prioritized in last year's resolution "Establishing a YDSA Rank-and-File Pipeline" and National DSA Resolution 32, which emphasizes that the central focus of socialists "should be on identifying and developing a layer of rank and file leaders who can organize in the workplace on a day-to-day basis."

Resolved, the rank-and-file pipeline will become a priority of YDSA's national staff and another member of staff will be hired. Staff responsibilities will primarily consist of coordinating regions and sectors, compiling necessary information about entering specific industries, coordinating 1:1s and pairing recruits with mentors, and helping to coordinate the speakers bureau and rank-and-file schools.

Resolved, the NLC consists of, but is not limited to, at least six committee members: one chair and five at-large committee members; and from these 6 members, 2 appointed as DSLC Steering Committee Representatives.

Resolved, the NLC, working, where relevant, with DSA's DSLC, will focus on continuing to build out a national YDSA rank-and-file graduation pipeline that facilitates the process of connecting YDSAers with rank-and-file jobs in strategic industries, to be determined by the NLC, or salting opportunities upon graduation.

Resolved, the YDSA rank-and-file graduation pipeline will consist of, but not be limited to,

1. Working with the National Political Education Committee to develop a curriculum around labor organizing and the rank-and-file strategy as part of the YDSA School of Socialism
2. A yearly survey of all YDSA members, to be facilitated by the National Labor Committee and chapter leadership to map out if members are interested in entering the labor movement upon graduation and which industries/in what capacity
3. This yearly survey data, along with information about DSA chapters with strong labor formations, should be used to map out "hot spots," prioritizing state schools, community colleges, and trade schools, and connecting them to their local DSA labor formation
4. Developing more pamphlets and educational materials like "Why Socialists should become Teachers" for more strategic industries such as logistics and healthcare
5. Running a national speaking tour for DSA labor organizers to speak to YDSA chapters in their region
6. Hosting national interest calls geared toward different industries with panels of rank-and-file organizers in the respective industry
7. Directing members interested in salting into relevant projects led by rank-and-file workers, prioritizing Amazonians United.
8. Hosting continued semesters of in-depth, recurring, rank-and-file schools for YDSAers nearing graduation who are seriously considering entering rank-and-file jobs in strategic industries or salting, to connect them with labor organizers in the respective industry. These schools would cover the history of organizing in the industry and the contemporary terrain, provide workplace-specific organizing trainings, guide YDSAers in applying for these jobs, and connect them with pre-existing rank-and-file networks, caucuses, and organizers

Be it resolved, the NLC will work to support chapters in supporting local labor struggles and in organizing undergraduate student workers on their campuses.

The NLC will work with the NOC to map chapters with favorable conditions for running organizing campaigns. The NLC will develop criteria for these conditions and lead outreach to chapters that meet these criteria and maintain an intake program for YDSA members interested in organizing their workplaces.

Conditions for these campaigns include; chapters with demonstrated capacity to run and win labor support campaigns, members with workplace organizing experience, chapters with significant student worker presence in their membership, and colleges & universities with a strong presence of organized labor on their campus.

The NLC will commit to a mass-strategy to organize undergraduate student workers by forming a network of student organizers, already-existing undergrad labor unions, and organizing committees.

Be it finally resolved, for YDSAers unsure of committing to a career directly upon graduation, but still interested in building rank-and-file power and the labor movement, the National Labor Committee should work to connect

YDSAers with strong rank-and-file led salting programs such as Amazonians United to help organize the unorganized.

Amendment to R8 (Withdrawn by sponsor)

Sponsor: Jacob W, UVA YDSA

This amendment would modify the resolution in the following ways:

New language

~~Struck language~~

Whereas, the labor movement must be central to any socialist strategy due to the structural power of the organized working class to extract concessions from the ruling class and the fact that unions are some of the most diverse working class institutions in the country. Labor organizing is both core to building socialist power and rooting the socialist movement in the multi-racial working class.

~~Whereas, to rebuild the American labor and socialist movements, and to merge the workers movement with socialism, socialists must have an orientation toward building shop floor power and developing a layer of rank-and-file leaders who can organize in the workplace on a day-to-day basis, often called the Rank-and-File Strategy (RFS). One key tactic of the RFS is having socialists take jobs in strategic, and often unionized, industries and workplaces.~~

Whereas, YDSA has a particular role within the socialist movement to develop life-long committed socialist organizers and send them into broader socialist and workplace struggles. YDSAers, having often **developed considerable practical organizing skills through student organizing experience, are in a unique position to strengthen DSA by joining local chapters upon graduation and taking up leadership roles.** ~~not yet started careers, are in a unique position to carry out the tactic of taking a Rank-and-File job upon graduation, and in some unique situations, while still in school.~~

Whereas, previously **YDSA has resolved to encourage graduating YDSA members to pursue the RFS, but many YDSA members still discontinued their organizing after graduating and lost their relationships and connections to socialist organizers in DSA. By providing organizational support, graduating YDSA members will be provided with mentorship, guidance, and a network of other socialists similarly continuing to be active in DSA.** ~~to the creation of the National Labor Committee, a number of YDSAers had already committed to pursuing the RFS as individuals, but had not had organizational support in this pursuit. By providing organizational support, those pursuing the RFS are provided with mentorship, guidance, and a network of other socialists similarly pursuing the RFS in their preferred industry.~~

Whereas, the **pipeline RFS** is the priority of the YDSA National Labor Committee and a great deal has been done to create a solid foundation for this campaign to be successful, **but evaluating the implementation of the pipeline as it currently stands would take decades.** ~~Prioritizing the RFS as the main focus of the YDSA National Labor Committee has made it so that the full attention of the committee is focused on ensuring that YDSA members have access to a true pipeline from graduation to the labor movement within their field, building a stronger and more militant labor movement along the way. Over the past year, hundreds of YDSA members have participated in the NLC's survey, mass calls, and rank-and-file schools.~~

Whereas, the NLC has been challenged by the scope of the administrative work necessary to coordinate projects such as the speakers bureau and mentorship program.

~~Therefore be it resolved, YDSA will renew its commitment to the rank and file strategy as it was prioritized in last year's resolution "Establishing a YDSA Rank and File Pipeline" and National DSA Resolution 32, which emphasizes that the central focus of socialists "should be on identifying and developing a layer of rank and file leaders who can organize in the workplace on a day-to-day basis."~~

~~Resolved, the rank and file pipeline will become a priority of YDSA's national staff and another member of staff will be hired. Staff responsibilities will primarily consist of coordinating regions and sectors, compiling necessary information about entering specific industries, coordinating 1:1s and pairing recruits with mentors, and helping to coordinate the speakers bureau and rank and file schools.~~

~~Resolved, the NLC consists of, but is not limited to, at least six committee members: one chair and five at-large committee members; and from these 6 members, 2 appointed as DSLC Steering Committee Representatives.~~

Resolved, the NLC, working, where relevant, with DSA's DSLC **and the Growth and Development Committee of DSA**, will focus on continuing to build out a national YDSA rank-and-file graduation pipeline that facilitates the process of connecting YDSAers with **rank-and-file jobs and strategic industries DSA chapters and national, local, and regional work**, to be determined by the NLC, or salting opportunities upon graduation.

Resolved, the YDSA rank-and-file graduation pipeline will consist of, but not be limited to,

1. Working with the National Political Education Committee to develop a curriculum around **labor socialist** organizing ~~the rank and file strategy~~ as part of the YDSA School of Socialism
2. A yearly survey of all YDSA members, to be facilitated by the National Labor Committee, **NOC, NCC, DSLC, and GDC**, and chapter leadership to map out **membership interest and ability to engage as active members of DSA work at the local, national, and regional level**. ~~if members are interested in entering the labor movement upon graduation and which industries/in what capacity~~
3. This yearly survey data, along with information about DSA chapters with strong **labor formations YDSA relationships**, should be used to map out "hot spots," prioritizing state schools, community colleges, and trade schools, and connecting them to their local DSA **labor formation chapters**
4. ~~Developing more pamphlets and educational materials like "Why Socialists should become Teachers" for more strategic industries such as logistics and healthcare~~
5. Running a national speaking tour for DSA **labor** organizers to speak to YDSA chapters in their region
6. Hosting national interest calls geared toward different **fields of DSA work with panels of DSA organizers from DSA chapters and committees at the national and local level** ~~industries with panels of rank and file organizers in the respective industry~~
7. Directing members interested in salting into relevant projects led by rank-and-file workers, prioritizing Amazonians United.
8. Hosting continued semesters of in-depth, recurring, **organizer training and schools** ~~rank and file schools for YDSAers nearing graduation who are seriously considering entering rank and file jobs in strategic industries or salting, to connect them with labor organizers in the respective industry~~. These schools would cover the history of organizing in the industry and the contemporary terrain, provide **workplace-specific** organizing training, guide YDSAers in **engaging in DSA work at the local, national, and regional level**.

Be it resolved, the ~~NLC~~**NRC** will work to support chapters in supporting local labor struggles and in organizing on their campuses. The ~~NLC~~**NRC** will work with EWOC, **DSL**C, **GDC** and **DSA chapters** where relevant to carry out YDSA-oriented labor organizing training.

~~Be it finally resolved, for YDSAers unsure of committing to a career directly upon graduation, but still interested in building rank and file power and the labor movement, the National Labor Committee should work to connect YDSAers with strong rank and file led salting programs such as Amazonians United to help organize the unorganized.~~

R9. For An Ecosocialist Future (Failed)

Sponsor: **Emerson Bannon**, *Miami University of Ohio YDSA*

Co-sponsors: **Tom Julstrom**, *University of Minnesota Duluth YDSA*

Ryan Verdos, *Louisiana Tech YDSA*

WHEREAS, the climate crisis is the defining challenge of our generation and humanity

WHEREAS, we are not operating on a timeline of our choosing

WHEREAS, capitalism and liberal politics cannot overcome this challenge

WHEREAS, humanity is not some wholly separate entity from nature and the rest of the earth, to destroy nature is to destroy ourselves and vice versa

WHEREAS, capitalism, imperialism, and colonialism have devastated humanity and the rest of nature, and the climate movement needs a proper analysis of these issues

WHEREAS, we draw our power from solidarity, collective power, and mass action

WHEREAS, the climate crisis is a special point of anxiety and rage for young people and YDSA members

WHEREAS, this is an ecological issue, an anti-imperialist issue, an anti-fascist issue, an anti-capitalist issue, a social justice issue, a class struggle issue

BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA will establish a national ecosocialism campaign and Ecological Future working group to fight the climate crisis created by capitalism and colonialism, to build towards an ecosocialist future, and use the environmental crises we face to build a mass movement mobilizing people and especially youth

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, this body will operate as a democratic and multi-tendency subgroup, subject to oversight and transparency from YDSA, and collaborating with the other parts of the organization wherever appropriate

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, this campaign will not just use electoral and lobbying mechanisms, but also direct action, radical organizing, self-defense, and class struggle methods to achieve its goals

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the campaign will operate through national coordination and demands, and local units pursuing local priorities including but not limited to, food justice, land back, pipeline resistance, sustainability, clean energy, radical democracy, worker organizing, anti-imperialism, divestment, urban forestry/guerilla gardening, mutual aid, disaster relief, and international solidarity

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, specific priority actions encouraged to be taken include;

Food justice, and community gardening and permaculture, especially in food deserts

Disaster relief and resiliency, especially in areas which are at risk of floods, hurricanes, or wildfires

Community building, developing systems of community solidarity and power in opposition to corporate power and capitalist exploitation

Climate strikes and area occupations in direct opposition to local injustice and climate inaction

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, this campaign will involve not just DSA and YDSA members, but our communities, organized labor, social justice organizations, the climate movement, youth organizations, indigenous organizations, and other groups fighting for the future of our planet, to be coordinated with appropriate national outreach bodies

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, this working group will prepare political education materials on ecology and ecosocialism in coordination with the NPEC, both for chapters and for the public, meant to further the ecosocialist struggle, as well as host a web presence, including social media and requesting funds for affordable website hosting

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the creation of multilingual and creative mass propaganda materials is beneficial to the campaign, such as posters, flyers, zines, artwork, graphics, and music or other media, Sing in Solidarity of NYC DSA, the national Design Committee, and any other internal or external groups are encouraged to collaborate on modern and effective mass propaganda, professionally produced materials created for the campaign should be union-made

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, this working group and campaign will be filled by rank-and-file members in good standing, will be headed by two co-chairs, one elected at the end of this convention by the delegates, and one elected directly by the members of the working group in September, both with terms expiring at the 2022 YDSA summer convention

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, there will at least ONE(1) subcommittee focusing on Racial Justice, and otherwise the exact leadership and committee structure shall be democratically decided by working group members, and working group membership is open to all YDSA members in good standing, and non-YDSA members are free to be otherwise involved in the campaign

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the YDSA NCC, DSA NPC, and national DSA Ecosocialism Working Group, and any YDSA chapter may each send a liaison to the working group as an official point of communication and coordination with their respective parts of DSA

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the current climate movement is lacking a firm anti-imperialist analysis and international solidarity, so the established working group, national DSA Ecosocialism Working Group, International Committee, and BDS and Palestine Solidarity Working Group are encouraged to cooperate in pursuit of developing ecological international analysis

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the NOC is asked to reach out to Students for Justice in Palestine, IfNotNow, Jewish Voice for Peace, and Palestinian Youth Movement for coalition building on issues related to Palestinian liberation, anti-imperialism, divestment, and other campaigns they are interested in

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, YDSA requests the national ecosocialist working group better integrate YDSA into its work, including a YDSA representative on the steering committee, YDSA chapters listed in the member registration form, hosting a forum for YDSA chapters to discuss and share their ecosocialist work with the rest of DSA, and encouraging more input from YDSA members in the drafting of GND principles and other aspects of a DSA ecosocialist platform

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the campaign is encouraged in assisting in indigenous-led actions such as in water protection, tribal sovereignty, and land back, and work with indigenous socialist groups such as The Red Nation and IAF-FAI

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, recognizing the critical opportunity the fall brings to student organizing, the empowered mentor program is asked to help assist in the 2021 Fall Drive, including providing guidance on COVID precautions, assisting in chapter recruitment efforts, and connecting with the DSA National Design Committee to design recruitment materials such as flyers, posters, and social media graphics, the established working group is ask to aid in creation of recruitment material addressing environmental issues

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, before the campaign is officially launched, as part of the 2021 Fall Drive there will be an internal effort to grow YDSA and our capacity, potentially including a drive to get chapter members who aren't involved to become dues-paying DSA members, creation of simple material(s) to further understanding of YDSA's national structure, adding more people to the national Slack, more NCC transparency, adding more ways to get involved to the national website, and filling out of other national level committees, in pursuit of building a bigger, stronger, more democratic YDSA with a nationally engaged rank-and-file

R10. Language Justice (**Passed - Consent Agenda**)

Sponsor: Emerson Bannon, *Miami University of Ohio YDSA*

Co-sponsors: Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth YDSA*

Jae Willis, *Miami University of Ohio YDSA*

WHEREAS, language justice is a priority for DSA and its success

WHEREAS, people should feel comfortable organizing in the language they prefer, and YDSA should celebrate the many cultures and backgrounds our members come from

BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA coordinate with any national DSA language justice work, begin the transition to becoming a multilingual organization, and encourage translation of YDSA publications and establishment of non-English publications and events within national YDSA and our chapters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, closed captions will be made available on all national calls hosted by YDSA.

Amendment to R10 (Accepted by author as friendly)

Sponsor: Jasmine Saldano, *Glen A. Wilson High School YDSA*

This amendment adds the following clause to the end of the resolution:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, YDSA members will apply and advocate for responsible use of active language to eradicate linguistic manipulation in political discourse and lawmaking.

R11. Racial Justice and Antifascism (Failed)

Sponsor: **Emerson Bannon**, *Miami University of Ohio YDSA*

Co-sponsors: **Tom Julstrom**, *University of Minnesota Duluth YDSA*

Jae Willis, *Miami University of Ohio YDSA*

WHEREAS, we must continue to prioritize antiracist work in YDSA

WHEREAS, many of our campuses uphold white supremacy

WHEREAS, fascist and far-right groups attack our campuses

WHEREAS, many YDSA members have been personally endangered by both of these issues

WHEREAS, the movement for Black lives is ongoing

BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA takes a firm antifascist and antiracist stance, and considers this stance and the situation on our campuses in all related activities and statements

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the coalition subcommittee of the NOC is requested to look at facilitating cooperation between YDSA and other organizations such as youth organizations and campus labor on the matter of antiracist and antifascist work

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, we call on YDSA, DSA, and chapters to jointly formulate and implement a Civil Rights Action Plan, an actionable document which recognizes DSA's capacity, limitations, and potential to fight the attacks on civil rights all over the country, a short version of the plan for immediate action is to be released by October 2021, the full plan to be written by Summer 2022

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, YDSA commits to fighting anti-semitism and islamophobia, and asks organizers to be briefed on anti-semitic dogwhistles in their antiracist and antifascist training

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, YDSA commits to fighting for AAPI rights and incorporating this fight into its antiracist work

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, YDSA host a workshop on the subject of antiracist and antifascist struggle and practice, including info security, at the next winter conference

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, there be at least ONE(1) designated person in the national mentoring program with experience in antifascist work to train and mentor chapters who are fighting the far right, that person or persons are empowered to compile info on far right activities, have a list of potential speakers to come advise chapters, or other activities to assist in antifascist mentoring

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, YDSA will cooperate with any national DSA work in these areas, and may incorporate unofficial work more formally into the organization if those doing the work agree

R12. Recommitment to the NOC (Passed)

Sponsor: Ali Noorzad, *Diablo Valley College*

Co-sponsors: Winifred Marion, *NYU*

Alex Pellitteri, *Hunter College*

Whereas, YDSA has grown to a national organization with 100's of formations scattered across the country. These chapters have been increasingly diversifying outside the ivy league/elite schools that dominated the organization beforehand and this growth requires intentional organizational leadership to cohere as the largest campus based socialist force in the country,

And whereas, it is essential that the national organization is responsive to the needs of its members and chapters,

And whereas, the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) should function as political leadership of the organization, overseeing the largest-scale decision-making in YDSA, but does not have capacity to act as the only administrative-organizational layer enacting YDSA's national priorities,

And whereas, internal organizing strengthens member organizing skills and can facilitate new projects around the country,

And whereas, we seek to build a new layer of socialist organizers who are equipped with the political knowledge and skills to organize for socialism,

And whereas, the National Organizing Committee (NOC) was established at the 2020 convention in recognition of this need.

Therefore be it resolved, YDSA recommit to a National Organizing Committee (NOC) to serve as an organizing department of YDSA, subordinate to and directed by the political leadership of the NCC

And be it further resolved, the NOC be composed of 3 national subcommittees:

- The Outreach subcommittee tasked with mentorship and guiding of national political priorities
- The Materials subcommittee tasked with production of materials for use in national priorities and chapter development
- The Field subcommittee tasked with organizing national actions such as phone banks, text banks, panels, and any other events under the direction of the NCC

And be it further resolved, the NOC is tasked with quarterly chapter assessments to inform where YDSA as a national org stands and the needs of chapters in navigating their local conditions. These assessments are to be compiled into reports for presentation at all future Conferences and Conventions

And be it further resolved, the NOC encourages chapters to follow a list of best practices as established by the NOC and NCC

And be it further resolved, all NCC members shall be members of the National Organizing Committee charged with mentoring at least 1 chapter a piece. This involves NCC in all decisions of the NOC and for the NOC to be directly subordinate to the NCC in a seamless way.

And be it further resolved, NOC Outreach subcommittee establishes an up to date list of chapters receiving structured mentorship from their local DSA chapter, and those chapters be deprioritized for NOC outreach

And be it further resolved, the NOC shall:

1. Seek to hold regular calls with each chapter and organizing committee;
2. Hold 1 Committee meeting per month
3. Provide training, support, and mentorship to chapters and members;
4. Work to integrate national resources, materials, and campaigns into chapters;
5. Elevate local chapter experiences and reports to inform national strategy;
6. Recruit chapter leaders from stable, developed chapters to national committees;
7. Seek to recruit and train a diverse group of potential NOC members

Amendment to R12 (Failed)

Sponsor: Nate Knauf, *Georgia Tech YDSA*

This amendment would replace the final resolved clause.

Proposed Text:

Therefore be it resolved, YDSA will organize a National Organizing Council (NOC) as an assembly of YDSA's organizers and leaders at the national level, subordinate to and directed by the political leadership of the NCC. The NOC will have at least 30 members, all of whom shall either be an elected chapter leader, be active in a national committee, or be a mentor to at least one chapter other than their own. The NOC may include YDSA liaisons from DSA chapters who are not members of YDSA chapters themselves.

And be it further resolved, the NOC will:

- Disseminate resources, materials, news, and requests for local actions from national committees to local chapters and organizing committees
- Provide training, support, and mentorship to chapters through regular check-ins
- Recruit new members to national committees from stable, developed chapters
- Meet at least six times between Conventions to:
 - Hear reports from chapters on successful local campaigns and what political tactics and best practices they find are most effective
 - Hear reports from national committees
 - Consider political matters of national importance and advise the NCC on political questions in strategy discussion sessions

And be it further resolved, YDSA will establish three national committees dedicated to practical organizing work and staffed by NOC members:

- The Outreach committee tasked with mentoring chapters and organizing committees, prioritizing newer formations and formations without structured mentorship from a local DSA chapter
- The Materials committee tasked with producing materials for use in national priorities and chapter development, including guides for best practices in organizing
- The Field committee tasked with organizing national political actions such as phone banks, text banks, panels, and any other events under the direction of the NCC

And be it further resolved, the NOC and Outreach committee will make quarterly assessments of all chapters and their needs in navigating local conditions in order to inform YDSA of where we stand as a national organization. These assessments will be compiled into reports for presentation at all future Conferences and Conventions

And be it further resolved, all NCC members will be NOC members and attend NOC meetings in order to involve the NCC in the NOC and for the NOC to be directly subordinate to the NCC in a seamless way.

R13. Recommitting to The Activist (Passed - Consent Agenda)

Sponsor: Finn Cooley, *Texas Christian University YDSA*

Co-sponsors: Ruy Martinez, *Harvard College YDSA*

Griffin Mahon, *YDSA at University of Virginia*

Whereas in the last year, YDSA's publication has highlighted chapter campaigns and actions from across the country, and

Whereas The Activist allows members to exchange their views in a comradely fashion, contributing to a democratic culture of political debate, and

Whereas an editorial board of six members has in the past year published over 50 articles, one 20-page magazine, and will publish another magazine before this convention, and

Whereas this accomplishment is a product of dedicated editors who meet weekly and review articles regularly, and The Activist should publish the writing of and be read by many more YDSA members, and

Whereas the 2019 resolution "Recommitting to The Activist" called for a stipend for the Executive Editor, but which the editorial board still supports unanimously,

Therefore be it resolved that The Activist will continue to be published as a subcommittee of the National Political Education Committee; it will consist of one Executive Editor and 6 - 8 other editors; members interested in being editors will be chosen by the YDSA NCC and will be asked to submit an application detailing their writing, editing, and/or publishing experience plus a writing sample.

Therefore be it further resolved that The Activist Editorial Board will aim to continue publishing an average of one article per week.

Therefore be it further resolved that the Activist Editorial Board will publish two print issues in the next year, one 24 pages and the next 26 pages, to be received by as many YDSA members as possible. These two issues will be sent out in conjunction with national events, such as the Winter Conference and annual Convention. The Editorial Board will work with the YDSA NCC and staff to ensure that print issues are afforded a sufficient budget and are ready for distribution to as many YDSA members as possible in a timely fashion.

Therefore be it further resolved that The Activist will continue featuring the weekly "Sunday Hot Takes" posts, to which editors and YDSA members may regularly contribute 500-word articles.

Therefore be it further resolved that the Activist Editorial Board will discuss the possibility of 1) starting a weekly opt-in newsletter that would include new and old articles, and 2) recording readings of articles so they can be listened to as podcasts. If the Activist Editorial Board decides to do either or both of these things, it will seek approval from the YDSA NCC.

Therefore be it further resolved that the Executive Editor of The Activist will receive a stipend of an amount to be determined by the YDSA NCC.

R14. Resolution for Supporting a Growing YDSA (Passed)

Sponsor: **Dahlia Wilson**, *Albany High School YDSA*

Co-sponsors: **Alex Pellitteri**, *Hunter College YDSA*

Cyn Huang, *UC Berkeley YDSA*

Whereas, YDSA is a uniquely important part of DSA and a crucial ground for membership recruitment and development. With nearly 150 chapters on high school, community college, and university campuses across the country, it is a large and highly developed national organization with its own campaign and long-term projects, such as a rank-and-file pipeline on a scale not seen elsewhere in DSA. YDSA is distinct from DSA working groups, committees, campaigns, or caucuses as it is uniquely vital for the sustained growth and development of DSA and its organizers.

Whereas, YDSA has grown into an increasingly complex and ambitious organization capable of carrying out large-scale national campaigns. YDSA leaders have demonstrated maturity, foresight, and organizing prowess at every level of the organization. YDSA has become a stellar project within DSA, turning out active chapters and lifelong socialist organizers and building a national organization.

Whereas, the growth and sustainability of the socialist movement relies on recruiting and training lifelong socialists organizers to act as the core of DSA and leaders in the labor movement. YDSA has incredible potential to recruit and develop such organizers on a mass scale.

Whereas, YDSA's growing presence on community college and HBCU campuses has played a vital role in further rooting DSA in working-class communities and recruiting and training working class and POC organizers.

Whereas, the scope of the work done by the YDSA has repeatedly been limited by lack of capacity from staff, who are overcommitted. Most national committees have been operating without much staff support and YDSA's current staffers have their hands full with the national campaign and supporting individual chapters, vitally important work.

Whereas, the scope of YDSA's work has similarly been limited by lack of capacity from national leadership, who are tasked with carrying out the political mandate of the organization as well as working and being full-time students. In order to build a sustainable organization that lifts up working class leaders, we need to provide institutional financial support to allow NCC members to lead YDSA.

Whereas, YDSA must routinely make requests of DSA and the Budget & Finance Committee for funding necessary to carry out national campaigns, such as phonebanks. This prevents YDSA's nationally elected leadership body from executing democratically mandated functions of the organization in a timely manner.

Whereas, YDSA has repeatedly called for the hiring of more staff and the process has been drawn out, inefficient, and without the input of the YDSA National Coordinating Committee (NCC).

Therefore be it resolved, YDSA commits to growing its essential role as a mass student socialist organization that carries out the crucial function of recruiting and developing skilled and confident lifelong socialist organizers.

Be it further resolved, YDSA calls on the DSA National Political Committee to implement the following policies:

- A. YDSA's NCC will have decision-making power over expenses related to YDSA national convention and conference and campaign expenses (such as, but not limited to, phonebanks, advertising, and printed materials).
- B. The NCC will be invited to attend DSA National Political Committee meetings and can speak at the discretion of the chair, though only the co-chairs will have voting power.
- C. YDSA will hire additional staff through the DSA hiring process and the NCC will have input in the hiring process. The NCC will issue recommendations and have final say on who is hired.
- D. Each NCC member will receive a monthly stipend calculated based on the average cost of rent, utilities, and groceries at the location of the NCC member, allowing NCC members to work less at their paid jobs and dedicate more time to YDSA. Minimally \$86,000 will be allocated from the DSA budget every year for stipends for NCC members. The amount allocated for stipends can be amended to cover the costs of living for the full NCC (calculated based on the average cost of rent, utilities, and groceries at the location of each NCC member).

Be it finally resolved, YDSA calls on DSA to pass a parallel resolution at the 2021 convention, implementing these resolutions and affirming the power of YDSA.

R15. Safe Organizing in YDSA (**Passed**)

Sponsor: **Emerson Bannon**, *Miami University of Ohio YDSA*

Co-sponsors: **Tom Julstrom**, *University of Minnesota Duluth YDSA*

Jae Willis, *Miami University of Ohio YDSA*

WHEREAS, DSA is facing a real problem of a lack of safety and accountability in our organizing space

WHEREAS, this environment hurts our work and our ability to function as a mass organization of the working class

WHEREAS, there has been a deep issue of long-term burnout and pain of those affected

WHEREAS, the organization has made real progress in this area but despite reform efforts, the problem remains

BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA prioritizes improving safety and accessibility, and encourages national DSA to do the same

BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA centers survivors in these conversations and actions, and operates to protect their boundaries, comfort, and safety

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, chapters are encouraged to adopt their own protocols and community agreements to improve their organizing space, each chapter is asked to adopt and implement their own chapter code to improve organizing space and accountability, and encourages a follow-up or review of these codes at the 2022 summer convention

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, YDSA will create a policy modelled on a workable and effective framework, and is proactive in improving YDSA and creating a culture of consent and furthering accountability

R16. Strengthening the YDSA/DSA Relationship (Passed - Consent Agenda)

Sponsor: Emma Damazo, *University of Virginia YDSA*

Co-sponsors: Autumn Pickett, *Purdue University YDSA*

Jia Sahar, *Purdue University YDSA*

WHEREAS socialism in the United States is a rapidly growing ideology, especially among young people

AND WHEREAS DSA has the potential to be a powerful mass-member organization

AND WHEREAS DSA needs to take advantage of the large number of passionate and active, but often unorganized and incohesive, leftist young adults

AND WHEREAS one of the best ways to create a new generation of organizers in DSA is to develop and invest in YDSA

AND WHEREAS many YDSA chapters have struggled to maintain membership or grow during the COVID-19 pandemic

AND WHEREAS many YDSA chapters have reported that relationships with their local DSA chapter have been key to their success in the last year

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED YDSA chapters should prioritize creating YDSA alums with robust organizing skills who become strong and active members of DSA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED YDSA shall recommend to DSA that the two organizations shall create formal relationships by:

- Collecting the contact information, future city of residence, and job of all graduating YDSA members through a survey administered by the NOC
 - The NOC will ensure YDSA chapters are doing the listwork and member tracking required for survey administration
- Establishing a YDSA mentor in each DSA chapter that is responsible, in addition to other YDSA Mentor responsibilities, for the on-boarding of YDSA alums and receives the contact information of incoming members from the NOC for onboarding purposes
 - The YDSA Mentorship Team will collaborate where relevant with the NOC, NPEC, NLC, and DSA's Growth and Development Committee
 - YDSA will recommend that the NOC, the YDSA Mentorship Team, and DSA's Growth and Development Committee shall jointly create trainings on onboarding processes for YDSA mentors
 - The NOC will send membership information gathered from the survey to relevant YDSA and DSA formations for onboarding as members move

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this mechanism will also be used for members transferring between YDSA chapters (ie. graduating high schoolers, undergraduates starting graduate school, and transfer students)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED YDSA's national campaigns should seek to develop relationships between YDSA and DSA, both locally and nationally, by following the political direction of DSA and creating spaces where YDSA and DSA members work together

- NCC and NOC shall encourage YDSA chapters to participate in local DSA campaigns and develop local campaigns in conjunction with DSA chapters
- Such local collaboration efforts should also be intentional mentorship opportunities to develop organizers who will be leaders in DSA, and thus the socialist movement, rather than simply efforts to plug YDSA members into volunteering for DSA work

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED local chapter mentorship shall be documented with the NOC.

R17. Strengthening YDSA's Political Education Program (Passed)

Sponsor: Emmaline Bennett, *Columbia-Barnard YDSA*

Co-sponsors: Jake Colosa, *New York University YDSA*

Michael Stenovec, *University of California Los Angeles YDSA*

Whereas, rigorous political education is crucial for developing our members into lifelong socialist thinkers and organizers, and should be implemented in all chapters.

Whereas, robust chapter political education programs help onboard newer members and give them the confidence necessary to become core organizers of their chapter, and bolster the confidence of existing core members by encouraging them to lead and participate in political discussion.

Whereas, incorporating political education into YDSA chapter meetings helps spark debate and discussion among membership, and encourages members to think of their local campaign work in a way that is closely informed by YDSA's overall socialist vision.

Whereas, national and regional political education programs play a vital role in encouraging strategic discussion between chapters and training new leaders at the regional and national level, as well as building up skills and confidence that YDSA organizers can bring back to grow and strengthen their chapters.

Whereas, national and regional political education programs are also a necessary component of our national and regional campaign work, enabling us to bring our socialist politics to a wider audience and grow YDSA.

Whereas, there is a need for a stronger nationwide new member onboarding process in both YDSA and DSA, in order to provide all new members with the opportunity to engage in strong political education and develop relationships with YDSA members outside their own chapters.

Whereas, the National Political Education Committee has made considerable progress in the past year towards developing more resources for political education in YDSA chapters, including developing a considerably expanded School of Socialism syllabus for chapters to use for local political education events and membership development.

Whereas, the National Political Education Committee has also made considerable progress in building out a national political education program, including: 1) drafting a Tasks & Perspectives document that lays out our national priorities and vision for winning socialism, and organizing local and national discussions around our national strategy; and 2) hosting reading groups and political education series open to all YDSA members on topics relating to our national priorities, such as the labor movement, debt cancellation, Black liberation, and police and prison abolition.

Whereas, the National Political Education Committee has also taken steps towards facilitating regional YDSA Summer Schools meant to develop stronger connections between chapters organizing in the same city or state and start up new chapters, although much work still remains to be done in this area. "

"Therefore be it resolved, political education will continue to be one of YDSA's key national priorities, and the National Political Education Committee will continue to: 1) develop resources for chapter-level political education; 2) host national reading groups and other political education events; and 3) help to organize regional political education events.

Therefore be it resolved, all YDSA members can apply to join the National Political Education Committee at any time of the year. Immediately after convention, the National Coordinating Committee will appoint two co-chairs, who will be responsible for onboarding all new members and delegating work. The co-chairs will have the authority to form or dissolve subcommittees as needed, so long as the committee as a whole is still working towards the goals established at convention. The co-chairs will serve as ex-officio members of the DSA National Political Education Committee and will work to coordinate and streamline work such as curriculum development between the two committees as much as possible.

Therefore be it resolved, the National Political Education Committee will also be tasked with revising the YDSA Tasks & Perspectives based on resolutions passed at the 2021 convention, to serve as a platform for YDSA and a statement of our current national priorities.

Therefore be it resolved, there will be a month-long suggestion period in which all YDSA members can suggest changes to the revised Tasks & Perspectives document, and during which YDSA chapters are strongly encouraged to host local discussions of the revised Tasks & Perspectives.

Therefore be it resolved, at the end of this month-long suggestion period, the National Political Education Committee will revise the Tasks & Perspectives document again taking membership feedback into account. This document must then be approved by the National Coordinating Committee before it can serve as YDSA's official statement of principles and current national priorities.

Therefore be it resolved, the National Political Education Committee will hold at least two trainings per semester on how to host an effective political education event, based on the national curriculum.

Therefore be it resolved, the National Political Education Committee will hold at least one political education series per semester open to all YDSA members as well as to a wider audience.

Therefore be it resolved, all members can suggest topics or readings for these political education events via surveys sent to all members at the start of each semester, and priority will be given to topics or readings that are most popular among members as well as topics or readings that relate to current national priorities. These political education events will be integrated with the national curriculum as much as possible. Additionally, all national political education events must be approved by the National Coordinating Committee.

Therefore be it resolved, the National Political Education Committee will actively recruit facilitators for these national political education events with the aim of building up the skills and confidence of YDSA members and developing them as potential national leaders, including recruiting new members of the National Political Education Committee. One possible model for this could be including an option to volunteer as a facilitator for all NPEC events, incorporating facilitator pre-meetings and debriefs, and delegating the work of following up individually with attendees to facilitators.

Therefore be it resolved, the National Political Education Committee will also use one-on-one outreach to chapter leaders, facilitators, and attendees of NPEC events as a way to recruit YDSA members who are interested in organizing regional political education programs such as city-, region, or state-specific YDSA Summer Schools, and will facilitate that organizing work by putting YDSA members in the same region in touch with one another and providing them with resources and mentorship.

Therefore be it resolved, these regional YDSA political education programs will involve intensive outreach to people whose schools do not yet have YDSA chapters, followed by individual outreach and mentorship with those people to help them start up their own chapters.

Therefore be it resolved, these regional political education programs will be closely integrated with the work of YDSA Coordinators/Mentors, with regular meetings between the National Political Education Committee and the YDSA Mentors to collaborate on the work of outreach and following up with facilitators and attendees of regional political events.

Therefore be it resolved, the YDSA National Political Education Committee will work with the National Coordinating Committee and YDSA staff to implement a comprehensive onboarding process for all new members who join via the YDSA website. This can take the form of: 1) sending a guide to all new members with information on upcoming national events, how they can become involved in the national campaign, and how they can apply for national committees; 2) pairing up more experienced members with newer members for regular one-on-one conversations about socialist politics and organizing in their chapters; and 3) hosting regular New Member calls organized around the topics of the expanded Socialism 101 syllabus (or about current events, organizing, etc.) and featuring presentations by YDSA members. The aim of this onboarding process will be to build up stronger relationships between YDSA members across chapters, provide all new members with the opportunity to engage in robust political education, and develop YDSA members' skills in articulating socialist politics and mentoring one another.

Therefore be it resolved, the NPEC will continue developing resources on relevant topics for the YDSA School of Socialism Syllabus webpage. At least 6 new or updated sessions will be added to the page each semester, to either the existing or new topic categories. The first 3 new sessions should be completed and posted on the website by October 1. The YDSA NPEC should work with the DSA NPEC as much as possible to streamline curriculum development between the two committees.

Amendment to R17 (Withdrawn)

Sponsor: Andrew Basta, *University of Chicago YDSA*

This amendment would replace the final resolved clause.

Proposed Text:

Therefore be it resolved, the National Political Education Committee will hold at least two trainings per semester on how to host an effective political education event, based on the national curriculum. The NPEC will coordinate outreach to YDSA chapters with the NOC in order to expand turnout at these trainings.

Therefore be it resolved, these regional political education programs will be closely integrated with the work of the National Organizing Committee (NOC) and YDSA Coordinators/Mentors, with regular meetings between the National Political Education Committee and members of the NOC and YDSA Mentors, to collaborate on the work of outreach and following up with facilitators and attendees of regional political events.

Therefore be it resolved, the YDSA National Political Education Committee will work with the National Organizing Committee and YDSA staff to implement a comprehensive onboarding process for all new members who join via the YDSA website. This can take the form of:

1. Sending a guide to all new members with information on upcoming national events, how they can become involved in the national campaign, and how they can apply for national committees.
2. Pairing up more experienced members with newer members for regular one-on-one conversations about socialist politics and organizing in their chapters; and
3. Hosting regular New Member calls organized around the topics of the expanded Socialism 101 syllabus (or about current events, organizing, etc.) and featuring presentations by YDSA members. The aim of this onboarding process will be to build up stronger relationships between YDSA members across chapters, provide all new members with the opportunity to engage in robust political education, and develop YDSA members' skills in articulating socialist politics and mentoring one another.

R18. Support for the NCC (Passed - Consent Agenda)

Sponsor: **Danny Holt**, *Wesleyan University YDSA*

Co-sponsors: **Remingtin Mickle**, *Purdue YDSA*

Jia Sahar, *Purdue YDSA*

WHEREAS, YDSA has experienced significant growth in the past few years and will continue to grow as time goes on. Democracy is a key value of YDSA and transparency of leadership is crucial for maintaining the health of our organizational democracy and our growth.

AND WHEREAS national YDSA projects and committees are stalled during the transition between outgoing and incoming NCCs each year, due to time-consuming but essential parts of the onboarding process.

AND WHEREAS, the NCC has, with the growth of YDSA, become overburdened with work and thus require more support in order to allow NCC members to devote more time to political leadership work;

AND WHEREAS, YDSA currently maintains an internship program, hiring two paid interns per semester;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the registration links for NCC meeting attendance be made available to all YDSA members, and that meeting minutes be distributed through organization-wide channels such as the DSA Discussion Board within the three days following each meeting of the NCC;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the outgoing NCC shall step into a non-voting advisory and/or maintenance role during the first month of the incoming NCC's term, in order to assist with the onboarding process and support the incoming NCC as they familiarize themselves with their role in the organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that YDSA request that DSA hires one additional YDSA intern per semester (for a total of three interns) to offset the burden of the increased workload necessitated by the organization's growing membership.